

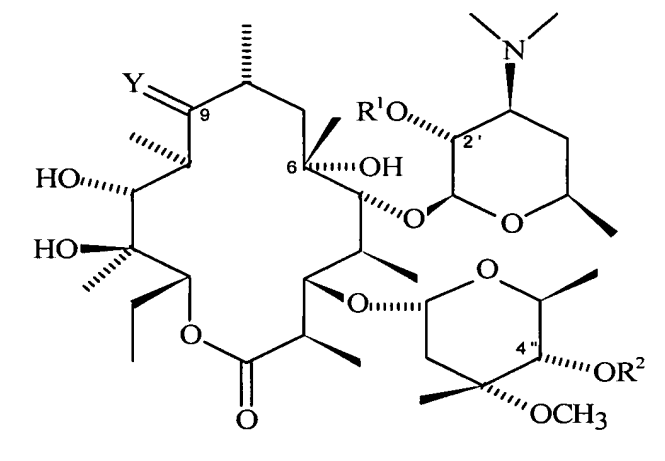
court also found provisionally that certain claims in a patent for clarithromycin oxime may be invalid.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

8. (Amended) An improved process for preparing 6-O-methylerythromycin A comprising:

(a) reacting a compound of the formula



wherein:

R¹ and R² are independently hydrogen or a hydroxy-protecting group, except that R¹ and R² may not both be hydrogen simultaneously; and

Y is selected from the group consisting of:

a) oxygen,

b) an oxime having the formula N-O-R³, wherein R³ is selected from the group consisting of:

hydrogen,

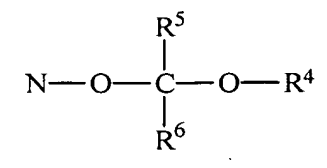
a loweralkenyl group,

an aryl(loweralkyl) group, or

a substituted aryl(loweralkyl) group;

and

c) an oxime having the formula:



wherein

R⁴ is

a loweralkyl group,

a cycloalkyl group,

a phenyl group,

an aryl(loweralkyl) group,

or R⁴ and R⁵ or R⁴ and R⁶ and the atoms to which they are attached are taken together form a 5- to 7-membered ring containing one oxygen atom;

R⁵ is

a loweralkyl group,

a loweralkoxymethyl group,

or R⁵ and R⁴ and the atoms to which they are attached are taken together form a 5- to 7-membered ring containing one oxygen atom,

or R⁵ and R⁶ and the atoms to which they are attached are taken together form a 5- to 7-membered cycloalkyl group;

and

R⁶ is